

Public Health Connection

October 16, 2014



Franklin County
Public Health

Welcome and Introductions

Susan Tilgner

Franklin County Health Commissioner





Ebola Situation Overview

Susan Tilgner

Franklin County Health Commissioner



Overview

- **Ebola Virus Disease (EVD)** (*formerly Ebola Hemorrhagic Fever*)
- **Discovered in 1976** – near Ebola River in Democratic Republic of the Congo, Africa

Overview

- **Five identified Ebola strains**, 4 cause disease in humans (*Ebola*, *Sudan*, *Tai Forest*, and *Bundibugyo*. The *Reston* strain does not cause disease in humans).
- The natural reservoir host of Ebola is unknown. Researchers believe that the virus is animal-borne and that bats are the most likely reservoir. Four of the five virus strains occur in an animal host native to Africa.

Global Ebola - WHO

The upward epidemic trend continues in Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone.

- **8,973** probable, confirmed, and suspected cases of Ebola
- **4,484** deaths have been reported

(Data up to the end of October 12th by the Ministries of Health of Guinea and Sierra Leone, and up to the end October 11th by the Ministry of Health of Liberia)



Global Ebola - WHO

- Nigeria and Senegal are now approaching 42 days since the date of last potential contact with a probable or confirmed case.
- Both Spain and the United States continue to monitor potential contacts.

Since 1976, there have been sporadic cases of Ebola in Africa, however this 2014 outbreak is the largest in history.



Symptoms

Symptoms of Ebola include:

- Fever (greater than 38.6°C or 101.5°F)
- Severe headache
- Muscle pain
- Weakness
- Diarrhea
- Vomiting
- Abdominal (stomach) pain
- Unexplained hemorrhage (bleeding or bruising)

Symptoms may appear anywhere from 2 to 21 days after exposure to Ebola, but the average is 8 to 10 days.



Transmission

Ebola is spread through **direct contact** (through broken skin or mucous membranes in, for example, the eyes, nose, or mouth) with:

- blood or body fluids (including but not limited to urine, saliva, sweat, feces, vomit, breast milk, and semen) of a person who is sick with Ebola
- objects (like needles and syringes) that have been contaminated with the virus
- infected animals

In the U.S., Ebola is NOT spread through the air or by water, or by food.

Transmission

What is meant by close contact?

- **Direct physical contact:** healthcare workers caring for patients; any physical contact without protective gear (*Quarantine for 21 days, take temperature twice a day, monitor symptoms*)
- **Close but no direct physical contact:** within a 3-foot radius for a prolonged period of time such as on a plane or in a car (*take temperature twice a day, monitor for symptoms*)



Are you at Risk?

In the last 21 days have you:

- **Traveled to** Guinea, Liberia or Sierra Leone? **OR**
- **Had close contact** with a person known or suspected to have Ebola?



Finding Cases and Tracking Contacts

Radhika Iyer, MPH, CPH

Infectious Disease Program Supervisor



Finding Cases

- **Class A Reportable Disease**

- Report case or suspected case immediately via telephone to local public health department where the patient resides

- **Use appropriate CDC tools and guidance to determine if**

- Individual meets case definition (*symptoms + exposure*)
- Laboratory testing will be conducted

- **Full public health case investigation completed**

- Isolate patient
- Identify contacts
- Quarantine contacts



Isolation of Case

Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) 3701-3-13 (DD) states:

- **“Viral hemorrhagic fever (VHF): a person with confirmed or suspected viral hemorrhagic fever shall be placed in airborne isolation until no longer considered infectious.”**



Quarantine of Contacts

1. Identify All close contacts in the 3 weeks/21 days after onset of illness
2. Initiate quarantine of contacts
3. Initiate active surveillance of contacts
Take and maintain record of body temperature twice a day for 3 weeks after last exposure
4. If temperature is greater than 101°F, hospitalize patient immediately and initiate appropriate isolation precautions



Ohio Enhanced Quarantine Protocol

Direct physical contact with Index Case

Brief contact such as a handshake
without personal protective
equipment

Individual will be quarantined for 21 days
after the last contact





Ohio Enhanced Quarantine Protocol

Without direct contact but,

Within a three foot radius of the index case (such as adjacent passengers in an airplane or car) for a prolonged period of time

Do twice-daily temperature-taking and symptom check for 21 days after the last contact





Ohio Enhanced Quarantine Protocol

Without direct contact but,
in the vicinity of index case

Notification and self-monitoring is
recommended





Isolation and Quarantine Planning with our Law Enforcement Partners

Susan Tilgner
Franklin County Health Commissioner



Isolation and Quarantine

Isolation

- Isolation is the separation and restriction of movement of ill people to stop the spread of that illness to others.

Quarantine

- Quarantine applies to people who have been exposed to a contagious illness and may be infected but are not yet ill.



Authority

Ohio Revised Code (3707)

- Board of Health and Health Commissioner authority
- Restrict exposed persons to place of residence or other such suitable place
- Separate ill persons from others who are susceptible
- Placard premise
- Employ Quarantine Guards





Ebola and Pets

Charlie Broschart, RS/REHS
Division Manger, Environmental Health



What is Currently Being Done

- CDC, USDA, American Veterinary Medical Association, National Association of State Public Health Veterinarians and others are developing guidelines.
- CDC released some guidance and will be providing more.

Can Pets be Infected?

- Animals that can be infected with Ebola:
 - monkeys, apes and fruit bats
- No reports of dogs or cats being infected with Ebola.
- Limited evidence that dogs can become infected, **but no evidence** that they develop the disease.

Next Steps

- Continue to follow CDC guidance as it comes out.
- Monitor what is being done in Dallas.
- Sharing information with FC Commissioners and FC Dog Warden.
- FCPH does has authority to quarantine animals if necessary.
- Look at possible terms of quarantine.
- Bring other animal agencies to the discussion.

Contact Information

Charlie Broschart, RS/REHS
Division Manger, Environmental Health

(614) 525-3849 office

cdbrosch@franklincountyohio.gov



Public Awareness Tools

Mitzi Kline

Director of Communication



Educational Fliers

EBOLA FACT SHEET



Franklin County
Public Health

In the last **21 days**, have you:

TRAVELED to Guinea, Liberia, or Sierra Leone?
-OR- **HAD CLOSE CONTACT** with a person known or suspected to have Ebola?

If you answered yes:
TAKE YOUR TEMPERATURE twice a day for 21 days.





WATCH FOR:

- Fever
- Headache
- Abdominal Pain
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Muscle Pain
- Weakness
- Unexplained Bleeding

In the U.S. you can't get Ebola through:

- Air
- Water
- Food

IF YOU GET SICK, limit contact with others and **call 911** (give your travel history).

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
Franklin County Public Health www.mycph.org (614) 525-3097
Centers for Disease Control & Prevention www.cdc.gov/ebola

EBOLA FACT SHEET

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- Fever
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Franklin County Public Health
280 East Broad St., Columbus, OH 43215
(614) 525-3097 • www.mycph.org

FACTS ABOUT EBOLA

EBOLA

What is Ebola? Ebola (called Ebola hemorrhagic fever in the past) is a rare and deadly disease caused by infection with one of the Ebola virus strains.

THE TRANSMISSION

Ebola is transmitted through direct contact with blood or body fluids from a person who is sick with Ebola.

What does "direct contact" mean? Direct contact means that body fluids from an infected person (alive or dead) have touched someone's eyes, nose, or mouth or an open cut, wound, or abrasion.

What are body fluids? Examples of body fluids are urine, saliva, mucus, sweat, feces, vomit, breast milk, and semen.

When is someone able to spread the disease to others? Ebola only spreads when people are sick with symptoms.

THE SYMPTOMS

What are the symptoms? Early symptoms include fever, headache, weakness, muscle pain, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain and unexplained bleeding. Symptoms may appear anywhere from 2 to 21 days after exposure.

ARE YOU AT RISK?

In the last 21 days, have you:

Traveled to Guinea, Liberia, or Sierra Leone? -OR-

Had close contact with a person known or suspected to have Ebola?

IF YOU ANSWERED YES:

Take your temperature twice a day for 21 days.

Watch for:

- Fever
- Headache
- Vomiting
- Abdominal Pain
- Muscle Pain
- Weakness
- Diarrhea
- Unexplained Bleeding

If you get sick, limit your contact with others and call 911 (give them your travel history).

MORE INFORMATION

Centers for Disease Control & Prevention
www.cdc.gov/ebola

Franklin County Public Health
(614) 525-3097 • www.mycph.org



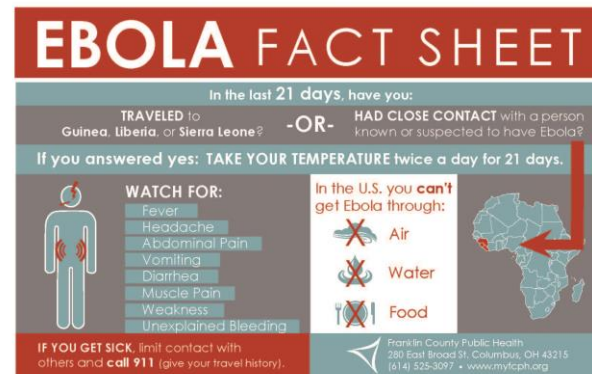
Educational Fliers

- **Available for you:**

- Electronically
- Hard Copies

- **Requests to:**

- Amber Breedlove, Health Communication Specialist
- (614) 525-3718
- amberbreedlove@franklincountyohio.gov





FCPH Ebola Informational Hotline

(614) 525-3097

FCPH Web Site
www.myfcph.org



FCPH Communication

Transparent and timely.
We will let you know what we know.

- Direct Outreach to Specific Audiences:
 - Stakeholders & Partners
 - Special Populations
 - General Public
 - Media



Contact Information

Mitzi Kline
Director of Communication

(614) 525-3028 office or
(614) 374-1924 cell

mrkline@franklincountyohio.gov



What are the Hospitals Doing to Prepare?

Debra Wright, RN
Assistant Health Commissioner and
Director of Nursing



What Can You Be Doing?

Susan Tilgner

Franklin County Health Commissioner



What Can You be Doing?

- Take care of healthcare workers and others who take care of those who are ill
- Use the tools of isolation and quarantine judiciously
- Frequent and transparent information and communication about Ebola



Questions & Open Discussion

Susan Tilgner
Franklin County Health Commissioner

